

Alaska State Board of Nursing
RN Advisory Opinions

Explanatory Statement about Advisory Opinions

An advisory opinion adopted by the Alaska Board of Nursing is an interpretation of what the law requires. While an advisory opinion is not law, it is more than a recommendation. In other words, an advisory opinion is an official opinion the Alaska Board of Nursing regarding the practice of nursing as it relates to the health and safety of the Alaska healthcare consumer. Facility policies may restrict practice further in their setting and/or require additional expectations related to competency, validation, training and supervision to assure safety of their patient.

Topic	Opinion	Interested Party	Date
Administration of sedating and anesthetic agents	It is within the SOP for an Registered Nurse, other than a CRNA, to administer sedating agents under defined conditions. UPDATED October 2009.	Providence Medical Center	June-06
Advancing colonoscopy scope	Advancing colonoscopy scope by Registered Nurse with direct MD supervision; approve the endoscope training course proposed for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital excluding the grandfather clause and with Debra Allen, RNC to go through the process and be checked off before serving as an instructor.	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	September-03
Alaska Native Medical Center Colorectal Cancer Screening	RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, continues to approve the Alaska Native Medical Center Colorectal Screening Program with the new standards of screening high risk patients at the age of 40, as noted in the new guidelines.	Brenda Cook and Paul Ferland, RN	January-14
Alaska Spine Center	The Board denied RNs the ability to administer Propofol as proposed. The Board referred the Alaska Spine Center to the advisory opinion on "Registered Nurse Administration of Sedating and Anesthetic Agents (Oct 2009) which does not endorse RNs giving Propofol. The Board states it is with in the scope of practice for CRNAs.	Bruce Jayne, Ida Primera, Sara Tyler Chandler and Sandra Harley	July-13

ANMC minimal & moderate procedural sedation policy	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approves the Minimal & Moderate Sedation Procedure Training Program for RNs, for endoscopy patients at Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, AK.	ANMC Anchorage (site specific)	April-12
Biofeedback therapy	Biofeedback therapy is an expanded scope of practice with specialized training. Expanded scope of practice is defined in the position statement "Registered Nurse and Advanced Nurse Practitioner Scopes of Practice."		October-96
Central Lines- stabilizing peripherally inserted central catheter lines	Stabilizing the peripherally inserted central catheter lines through the use of a nylon suture is within a registered nurse's scope of practice. Specialized training is required in accordance with the position statement, "Registered Nurse and Advanced Nurse Practitioner Scopes of Practice."	Valley Hospital	June-96
CEs for ACLS, PALS, and other advanced courses	It was noted that ANCC will award contact hours for content in "repeat" courses such as ACLS, PALS, NRP and other advanced courses. The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, will accept CE's for renewals of ACLS, PALS, and other advanced courses for RN's and ANP's.		April-14
CEs for ACLS, PALS, and other advanced courses	On a motion that carried unanimously, The Board of Nursing will accept CEs for renewals of ACLS, PALS, and other advance courses for RNs (not ANPS) beginning December 1, 2014.		July-14
Clinical Support Associate	The Board determined that when the CSA is a licensed nurse working as a Clinical Support Associate, they are held accountable to his/her highest level of licensure. And, if the licensed nurse has practice problems, his/her registered nurse license will be sanctioned even though the license nurse is working as a CSA.		December-94

Conscious sedation	Administering conscious sedation is within the scope of practice of a registered nurse. Reaffirming earlier position in response to a request for a board opinion on use of a specific drug for conscious sedation. Appropriate training and certification required. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.		March-98
Conservative sharp debridement	The Board notes that an advisory opinion issued in March 1995 recognized that sharp wound debridement is within the scope of practice for a Registered Nurse with certification in ostomy care.	Rachelle White, RN, YKHC, certified Ostomy and Wound Care nurse	September-07
Conservative sharp debridement	RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska finds that conservative sharps debridement is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse who has specialized certification, which documents education with supervised clinical practice under a wound care specialist, the nurse's employer has a policy and procedure in place, there is a health care provider order, and the nurse has evidence of continued competence or ongoing certification.		October-09
Cranberry Supplements --Are Cranberry capsules considered a food supplement or an herb, for the purposes of 12 AAC 44.945	The board reiterated its interpretation of cranberry extract as food supplement. Products labeled as such fall within the approved substances referenced in 12 AAC 44.945.	Providence Medical Center	April-08
Cross Road Medical Center Update RN taking X-rays	The program is running smoothly and regular training and in-services are ongoing. There were no concerns noted at this time. When new people join the staff, they are receiving the training. It was noted that there is an annual January update requirement to the Board.		January-14

Deep sedation administration	Board reiterates the limitations identified in the Advisory Opinion September 2006 and readopts Advisory Opinion with updated references. UPDATED October 2009.	Providence Medical Center	December-06
Deep Sedation-Can a Registered Nurse in the State of Alaska administer deep sedation?	The Board reiterated that they could not.		July-09
Delegation decision tree	the Board adopted the Ohio and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing delegation decision trees to aide RNs in making judgments.		December-07
Delivery of prepackaged medications	Delivery of prepackaged medications is within the scope of practice of a registered nurse when a physician orders the medications. Decision based on the procedure presented by Central Peninsula General Hospital. SEE SEPTEMBER 2002.	Central Peninsula General Hospital	June-99
Dermabond/Liquidband applications by RN's	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the application of liquid skin adhesive such as Dermabond, by an RN with an order from and ANP, physician, or PA.		January-11
Diabetic foot and nail care	The Board notes that an advisory opinion issued in September 1997 recognized diabetic foot care as within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse with specialized training.	Lisa Garneau, RN, Kathleen Eischen RN	September-07
Diabetic foot care	Diabetic foot care has restrictions and the board recommends special training. A specialist should be consulted for diabetics and clients with compromised circulation. SEE SEPTEMBER 2007.	Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	September-97

Dietary Supplements non-FDA approved dietary supplements	Board reaffirms June 1997 position and does not support nurse administration of dietary supplements. SEE SEPTEMBER 2006 AND APRIL 2008.	Alaska Pioneer Home	September-02
Distribution of donated medications	Registered Nurse distribution of expired or donated prescription medication samples represents “dispensing” and is outside the scope of practice for Licensed Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses in Alaska. Memo to Board of Pharmacy, Board of Medicine, Board of Nursing Newsletter and other professional publications such as ANA Newsletter regarding RNs accepting and dispensing medication, including controlled substances.		June-05
Ear Lavage	The Board affirms that a facility should have a policy and procedure that is within the scope of practice for an RN or Licensed Practical Nurse. It is outside the scope of duties of a Certified Nurse Aide.		July-09
Emergency drugs	A Registered Nurse may carry emergency drugs that are properly labeled and administered with a doctor's order.	response to request from hospice	June-95
EPIDURAL A registered nurse may administer analgesics through established epidural catheters.	The registered nurse must have appropriate educational preparation for this function, and the institution has a responsibility to see that each nurse is adequately prepared. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009	Letter to Providence Hospital from executive secretary referencing the Board's June 1987 action.	June-90
Expanded RN roles revised -Facility programs for Registered Nurse expanded roles	Board adds "Nursing Policies" to the checklist		April-09

Expanded RN roles- Facility programs for Registered Nurse expanded roles	Board accepts the checklist for facilities to utilize when submitting proposed programs for expanded roles for RNs programs. SEE APRIL 2009.		September-04
External Jugular Vein IV Catheter Insertion	This is a peripheral IV site and within the scope of practice for Registered Nurse insertion with the proper training.	Dr. Kevin DeDuca, MatSu Regional Hospital	June-07
Fentanyl Administration	It is in the scope of practice for a registered nurse to administer I.V. conscious sedation using Fentanyl under direct supervision by a physician. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.	Sandy Tackett, Registered Nurse, DON, Petersburg Medical Center	June-02
Flexible sigmoidoscopy	Training program approved to prepare registered nurse to perform flexible sigmoidoscopy. Program meets guidelines for a registered nurse to acquire new responsibilities for advanced and specialty practices. SEE JUNE 2007.	Alaska Native Medical Center, South Central Foundation	December-01
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy performed by Registered Nurse	Grants approval of the request by South Central Foundation to expand the Flexible Sigmoidoscopy screening program performed by RNs to the primary care clinic in Wasilla and the community health care centers in McGrath and Nilavena.	South Central Foundation	June-07
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy performed by Registered Nurse	Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the expansion of the Alaska Native Medical Center Training Program RN Performing Flexible Sigmoidoscopy to include the updated training which will allow ANPs and PAs to be available on site at all times.	South Central Foundation	July-10

Forensic Registered Nurse role	Forensic nursing is within a nurse's scope of practice; Reaffirm April 1994 decision.		June-01
Gastric pH-- performing gastric pH and motility studies	Performing gastric PH and motility studies is within a registered nurse's expanded role.		March-00
Hair grafts	Performing the procedure of multiple apparatus for forming multiple cavities for placement of hair grafts is not within a registered nurse's scope of practice.	query from MD	September-99
Intraosseous Access	Intraosseous access is taught in PALS and ACLS. Thus it is appropriate for a properly educated RN to perform intraosseous access in a critical situation.	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	July-09
Intubation	A registered nurse may not intubate on a regular basis. New scopes of responsibilities may be defined by formalized courses of study. SEE MARCH 2007 LARYNGEAL MASK AIRWAY.	Alaska Native Medical Center	June-01
Ketamine Can a Registered Nurse administer Ketamine for pain management, rather than anesthesia?	After reviewing the Anesthesia Advisory Opinion Forum notes from the May 18, 2009 meeting and discussion regarding the AK Board of Nursing Advisory Opinion on Nurse Administration of Sedating and Anesthetic Agents. it was decided to adhere to the decision that RN's WILL NOT be allowed to administer ketamine for pain management and anxiolysis management. A registered nurse in the State of Alaska MAY NOT administer deep sedation. SEE October 2009 update.		July-09
Ketamine administration	Board does not support use of Ketamine by Conscious Sedation Nurses. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.	Christine Blackgoat, Registered Nurse, JD, Central Peninsula General Hospital	June-02

Laryngeal Mask Airway	She asked whether trained Registered Nurses are within their scope of practice to insert laryngeal mask airways. The Board concluded that this is within the scope of practice of a trained RN.	Chris Glaspell, RN at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	March-07
Life Coaching	The Board decided that since Life Coaching could be done by any person with Life Coaching training, those hours would not count as clinical nursing hours. Only hours that require the skills training, and expertise of a professional nurse would count as clinical nursing hours.	Cassandra Kincaid	July-13
Limited 1st trimester OB ultrasound	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the expanded scope of RN practice to perform limited OB ultrasound if the RN successfully completes a course that follows the National Guidelines of the American Institute of Ultrasound, American College of Obstetricians, and the American College of Radiology and is taught by a Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.	Nancy Bienvenue and Roxanne Ehrtel	January-11
Lymphedema dressings	Can RNs remove and rewrap dressings placed by lymphedema therapists? The Board determined that , yes, dressing changes are within the scope of practice for RNs. If dressings placed by lymphedema therapists require additional RN education and training, this can be handled at the discretion of the institution.	James Poirier, Nurse Manager St. Elias Specialty Hospital	July-13
Mobile RN Scope of Practice	Are RN's practicing within their scope of practice while working on the ambulance crew? The Board felt that as long as an RN is functioning under Alaska state regulations, the setting was not the issue.		July-10
Moderate IV Sedation	The Board upheld the previous position regarding Moderate Sedation (Ketamine and Propofol are not approved, Fentanyl is acceptable for administration). SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.	Providence Medical Center	September-05

Nitrous Oxide	The Board determined that the administration of Nitrous Oxide is ONLY within the scope of practice for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNAs) and not RNs. <i>Note the advisory opinions about</i>		October-11
Nitrous Oxide for labor analgesia	BON approves the expanded scope of practice for RNs to administer Nitrous Oxide for labor analgesia as follows: 1) the policy and procedures reflect that RN administering Nitrous Oxide holds a current	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, Debra Booyesen	April-15
Nitrous Oxide administration by RN for a Pediatric	BON approves the educational program for RN administered Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen in the pediatric patient . The proposal is approved with an amendment noting administration of a maximum 60%	Fairbanks memorial Hosital	January-15
Nitrous Oxide administration by RN for a Pediatric	The intent of this motion (above) is not to be restrictive based on either sign or symptom or specific procedure.	Fairbanks memorial Hosital	April-15
Non-FDA approved dietary supplements	Board reiterates previous positions that held this to be outside the scope of practice for an Registered Nurse. SEE SEPTEMBER 2006 AND APRIL 2008.	Representative Kelly	March-06
Non-FDA approved dietary supplements	Board approves dietary supplements but continues to find administration of herbs outside the scope of practice for Registered Nurse. Placed in regulation. SEE APRIL 2008.	Representative Kelly, Rick Schikora	September-06
Nurse Licensure Compact	Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska opposes the joining of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) for the reasons set forth in the February 2010 memorandum from Dr Nancy Sanders to the Senate HSS Committee.		April-10
PEG/PEJ tube insertion	It is within scope of practice for Registered Nurse to assist with PEG/PEJ insertion, after completion of facility training program	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	December-06
PICC line insertion	Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approves the PICC line insertion proposal from Basser Army Hospital. An update to the Board after their next JCAHO inspection, which is scheduled for Fall of 2015.	Aleisha Ross, RN, Bassert Army Hospital	April-14

<p>PICC line insertion by Registered Nurse</p>	<p>Approve the education program at Providence Alaska Medical Center which would train Registered Nurses to allow them to insert peripherally inserted central catheters using micro introducers and ultrasound guidance. SEE DECEMBER 2007.</p>	<p>Providence Medical Center</p>	<p>March-04</p>
<p>PICC line tip placement</p>	<p>Education program for assessment of chest radiographs for PICC line tip placement, with subsequent clearance of the catheter for use, by Registered Nurses.</p>	<p>Alaska Native Medical Center</p>	<p>December-07</p>
<p>Pregnant Women with catheters for analgesia/anesthesia update RN role in the care of the pregnant woman receiving analgesia/anesthesia by catheter techniques (epidural, intrathecal, spinal, PCEA catheters)</p>	<p>The Board of Nursing states that the role of the RN in the care of the pregnant Woman receiving analgesia/anesthesia by catheter techniques (epidural, intrathecal,spinal, PCEA catheters), may not 1. rebolus an epidural either by injecting medications into the catheter or increasing the rate of a continuous infusion, 2. Increase/decrease the rate of a continuous infusion, 3. Re-initiate an infusion once it has been stopped, 4. manipulate PCEA doses or dosage intervals, 5. Be responsible for obtaining informed consent for analgesia/anesthesia procedures; however, the nurse may witness the patient signature for informed consent prior to analgesia/anesthesia administration. This standard is from the AWHONN Epidural statement reapproved June 2007.</p>	<p>Patricia Smith and Keiko Torensen, Mat-Su Regional Medical Center</p>	<p>October-10</p>
<p>Pregnant Women with catheters for analgesia/anesthesia update What is the role of the RN in administration of analgesia/anesthesia by catheter technique (epidural, intrathecal, spinal, PCEA) for pregnant women?</p>	<p>The Board stated that an RN may monitor the patient but not manipulate or titrate the dosage of analgesia/anesthesia by catheter technique (epidural, intrathecal, spinal, PCEA) for pregnant women.</p>		<p>July-09</p>

Procedural conscious sedation	The Board approves the competency tool for nursing care during Procedural Conscious Sedation at Anchorage Endoscopy Center.	Kristen Sharp, RN, Anchorage Endoscopy Center	October-13
Procedural sedation education program	The Board approved the procedural sedation education program at South Peninsula Hospital.	Linda Stearns, RN, Staff Educator, South Peninsula Hospital	July-14
Propofol Administration	Administering the drug Propofol is outside the scope of practice of a nurse when being used for anesthesia. Unless the nurse has formalized, documented training with didactic and supervised clinical experience in the administration of general anesthesia. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.	Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	July-01
Propofol	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska has determined that it is outside the scope of practice for an RN to administer propofol other than the uses documented in our Advisory Opinion on RN Administration of Sedating and Anesthetic Agents		July-12
Propofol Administration February 1999	Board upholds July 2001 position that Registered Nurse administration of Propofol is outside the scope of practice. SEE ADVISORY OPINION, JUNE 2006, NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF SEDATING AND ANESTHETIC AGENTS. UPDATED October 2009.	John Walker, MD	March-03
Registered Nurse administered anesthesia	Board amends and readopts the Advisory Opinion on the Registered Nurse Sedating and Anesthetic Agents with amended insertion of subtitles.		October-09
Registered Nurse First Assist	Approved the Association of Operating Room Nurses statement on RN as First Assistant as guidance to nurses on this issue.		August-93

Registered Nurse First Assist update	Board adopts the current AORN position statement on RN First Assist. This function is an expanded RN role. The position statement on RN First Assist was approved by the AORN House of Delegates, December 2005. The surgeon must directly supervise the nurse. The position statement includes, " A nurse may not practice under standing orders or protocols that require the nurse to make medical judgments outside the nurse's scope of practice."		January-10
Registered Nurse Refresher Courses must be approved by the Board of Nursing prior to enrollment, per AS 08.68.251(b)(1) and 12 AAC 44.600-660.	RN Refresher course from Parkland College, online, not approved by the Board, per AS 08.68.251(b)(1) and 12 AAC 44.600-660. No exception would be made for Tamara Williams to accepting a non-Board approved course.	Tamara Williams	March-07
Removing Chest Tubes	RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska finds that it is within the scope of practice for RNs who have appropriate training to remove chest tubes with an order from a healthcare provider.	Gena Edmiston, CNO Fairbanks Memorial Hospitals	October-12
Repackaging dispensed medication	Reaffirmed June 99 position: repackaging dispensed medication is administration, within the scope of traditional nursing practice. Overturns decision Dec. 01 that pre-filling medisets was dispensing and outside the scope for Licensed Practical Nurse.		September-02
RN identification of medications	It is outside the scope of practice for a RN to identify unlabeled medications.	Alaska Division of Corrections	October-09

RNs assisting anesthesiologists with regional blocks	<p>The physician performs catheter placement and monitoring while the RN injects the medication under the direction and guidance of the anesthesia provider. The physician is assuming placement of the medication and guiding the actual needle and determining catheter position-not the RN. The hospital should write a policy explaining that the RN role during this procedure is only to assist the anesthesia provider and not to determine where or how the medication is dispersed.</p>	<p>Dawn Hughes and Jacqueline Hudson, Alaska Regional Hospital</p>	<p>July-13</p>
School Nurse clarification of feeding tubes Regulation 12 AAC 44.960(7) adding fluid to established gastrostomy tube feedings and changing established tube feeding bags.	<p>The Board offered clarification: "established" means a well healed stoma when the term involves routine feedings. Feedings through a well healed stoma is a delegable task which can be delegated in a school setting based on the delegation regulations.</p>	<p>Mary Bell, RN, Alaska School Nurse Consultant</p>	<p>October-12</p>
School nurse delegation	<p>Can the school principal delegate if the parent is not available? The Board stated that the school nurse must follow state law regulating their nursing license, over school policy.</p>	<p>Alaska School Nurse Association</p>	<p>December-07</p>
School Nurse presented Medication Administration Course for Unlicensed Staff	<p>RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska accepts the "State of Alaska Medication Administration: Guide for Training Unlicensed School Staff" as presented to the Board (at the October 2012 Board meeting). This medication administration course will be part of the State of Alaska School Health Manual.</p>	<p>Mary Bell, RN, Alaska School Nurse Consultant</p>	<p>October-12</p>

School nurse training of UAP vs. delegation	The Board refers to the definition of delegation which requires delegation must be to a single person related to a specific patient, with a recommendation that there be written documentation of the delegation. The Board recommends that instruction/training be documented in writing.	Alaska School Nurse Association	April-08
School Nurses (RN)	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska adopt the 'Medication Administration in the School Setting' Delegation Decision Tree as an advisory opinion based on 12 AAC 44.950 – 12 AAC 44.975 to be posted on the BON website.	Mary Bell, RN and Nancy Etl, RN	April-12
School Nurses (RN) in regards to out of state field trips that delegation to a UAP	It was advised that a power of attorney is an option for the parent or guardian to assign prior to the field trip. The other option is to have the parent delegate to someone on the field trip to manage their child's health need. The school nurse can teach the field trip's UAP after the parent has delegated to the UAP. By using one of these methods the school nurse is not delegating to a UAP.	Mary Bell, RN	July-12
School Nurses Diabetic Management Training Guide	RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approves the "Diabetes Management: Guide for Training Unlicensed School Staff", as presented to the Board (at the October 2012 Board Meeting).	Mary Bell, RN, Alaska School Nurse Consultant	October-12
Scope of practice decision tree	the Board adopted the Arizona scope of practice decision making tree for use in making judgments.		December-07
SEARHC request for approval of RN's taking X-rays	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved RNs taking x-rays following the same criteria of the previously approved programs at the Alicia Roberts Health Center, Haines Health Center and Cross Roads Medical Center at the Jessie Jim Health Center in Angoon, Kake Health Center and Hoonah Health Center.(April 2014 Board decided no longer needs an annual update)		January-11

SEARHC request for approval of UAA Limited Radiography Program	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the UAA Limited Radiography Program as an alternative to ANTHC course.		January-11
SEARHC request for RNs to perform clinical breast exams	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, upon receipt of an institutional nursing policy from SEARHC Wisewoman Woman's Health Program approves RNs to perform clinical breast exams, according to the Clinical Breast examination training & certification from Mammacare	Letia Garrison, RN and Nancy Bleir, RN	April-12
Sharps debridement by Certified enterStomal Therapy Nurse	The board determined that it is an acceptable practice for the Certified EnterStomal Therapy Nurse to do sharps debridement with a physician's order, following national standards and with clear policies and procedures in place. AMENDED October 2009.	Maureen Rutman, Registered Nurse and Donna Zoznock, Registered Nurse	March-95
Social Media	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska has adopted the NCSBN White Paper: A Nurse's Guide to the use of Social Media. The white paper will be posted on the BON website.		July-12
Stool Impaction removal	The Board affirms that this is within the scope of duty for an RN and Licensed Practical Nurse but outside the duty of a Certified Nurse Aide.		July-09

Supervision --what is supervision?	National Council of State Boards of Nursing defines supervision as the provision of guidance or direction, oversight, evaluation and follow-up by the licensed nurse for the accomplishment of a nursing task delegated to nursing assistive personnel. This definition goes on to define Direct Supervision as involving the presence of the licensed nurse who is working with other nurses and/or nursing assistive personnel to observe and direct the assistant's activities. The proximity of this supervision is such that immediate intervention is possible if problems occur. Indirect Supervision occurs when the licensed nurse is not present and supervision is provided by other than direct observation of the nurses and/or nursing assistive personnel. The absence of proximity of the licensed nurse requires processes being in place for the direction, guidance, support and monitoring of the Licensed Practical Nurse or nursing assistive personnel activities.	Alaska School Nurse Association	April-08
Suprapubic Catheter	RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska finds that it is within the RN and LPN scope of practice to change suprapubic catheters with a healthcare provider's order after receiving additional training from a healthcare provider.	Jananna Gilder, RN OPC Manager from Norton Sound Health Corporation	October-12
Suturing	Registered nurse scope of practice does not include suturing. Statement from annual report. No background information. AFFIRMED JUNE 1995		September-91
Suturing (by an RN)	A Registered Nurse may not suture independently or with the assistance of a physician.	Providence Medical Center	June-95
Therapeutic phlebotomy	A nurse may perform therapeutic phlebotomy if there are policies and procedures and proof of specialized training and certification.		March-97

Third Trimester Limited Ultrasound	Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the expanded scope of practice for RNs at the Children's Hospital at Providence for third trimester limited ultrasound scope of practice and educational requirements. Annual updates are to be presented to the Board each January.	Children's Hospital at Providence Anchorage	July-10
UAP phone orders to RNs from physician offices	Board wrote a letter clarifying that phone orders are to be accepted only from other licensed medical personnel.	Providence Medical Center	December-04
Vascular Sheath Removal	Under the authority of Sec. 08.68.100 the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska accepts by assent that a registered nurse, with the appropriate education, demonstration of skill and continued competence may remove vascular sheaths.		October-09
Ventilators	A nurse may not initiate or set up ventilators.	Brenda Sturn	October-96
Visual sclerotherapy	The Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approved the expansion in the scope of practice for an RN to perform visual sclerotherapy if the following requirements are met: The RN is under the direct supervision of a qualified physician, ANP, or PA who has expertise in sclerotherapy. Only an RN who has completed a formal course based upon the core curriculum for sclerotherapy which follows the guidelines of the American College of Phlebology and has had a minimum of 24 hours of supervised one on one training with a qualified physician, ANP or PA is allowed to perform sclerotherapy	Janet Stookey, RN	April-11
X-rays	Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska , has determined it is beyond the scope of practice for an ANP, RN, LPN, or CNA to perform x-rays and radiological procedures involving the use of contrast media, use of fluoroscopic equipment, mammography, tomography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), bone densitometry using ionizing radiation, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy, or computed tomography imaging (CT scan).		April-10

X-RAYS site specific Limited expansion of RNs taking of X-rays	Board of Nursing approved the application to expand the scope of practice for RN's at SEARHC Alicia Roberts Medical Center in Klawock, The SEARHC Haines Health Center in Haines, and the Cross Road Medical Center in Glenallen. RN's must successfully complete the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Healthcare Diagnostic X-ray Imaging class prior to taking x-rays. A yearly update must be provided to the Board in January of each year. Any changes to this program must be approved by the Board before implementation	SEARHC Alicia Roberts Medical Center in Klawock, Haines and Cross Roads	July-10
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revised July 2014

